

Ulrich Saxer-Stiftung

zur Förderung des publizistik- und kommunikationswissenschaftlichen Nachwuchses

In 2000, the former IKMZ professor Ulrich Saxer (1931-2012) established a foundation for the promotion of early-career communication scientists in Switzerland, with a special focus on science and research at the Universities of Zurich and Lugano.

The most important goal of the Ulrich Saxer Foundation's promotion of early-career scholars is to strengthen the development Swiss communication science. The discipline has a special relevance in view of the role of media in today's society. It analyzes the growing importance of media and examines the effects of modern communication technologies on the production, distribution and reception of information. In order to keep up with the speed and complexity of technological developments, communication science as a discipline depends on innovative, sustainable, and long-term research services.

At the same time, Swiss communication science urgently needs more personnel due to the very high demand from students as well as from the media and communication industry. The subject, which is taught at university institutes, universities of applied sciences and other educational institutions, has been enjoying a sustained high level of interest from students for some years now - but there is a shortage of lecturers.

The Foundation's promotional activities are intended to supplement existing offerings in this area. The main activity consists in the organization and financing of scientific conferences, which serve the interdisciplinary and problem-related discourse. The Foundation organizes an annual workshop, the "Zukunftswerkstatt".

The board of trustees consists of Prof. Manuel Puppis (Fribourg) as president, Prof. Philomen Schönhagen (Fribourg) as vice president, Prof. em. Otfried Jarren (Zurich), Prof. Gaetano Romano (Lucerne), Dr. Hugo Bütler (former editor-in-chief of Neue Zürcher Zeitung), Edgar Schuler (head of the Zurich and regional section of Tages-Anzeiger) and Prof. Urs Saxer (Zurich). Dr. Dominique Wirz (senior researcher at the DCM, University of Fribourg) is responsible for the scientific administration.

Zurich, June 2021

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Website: <https://www.ikmz.uzh.ch/en/departement/networks/saxer-foundation.html>